september.strawberryyuri.org

Scans: amyused Translation: fencer_x

Cleaning: flutter Typesetting: fencer_x

gate:9

OZUNO-SAN!
KAZUKI...
DID YOU FIND AKIRA-CHAN?

NO... I WENT TO THE USUAL SPOT.
BUT HE STILL WASN'T THERE TODAY.
THE GATE IS CLOSED, RIGHT?
YES. SHOULD WE HAVE SEIGA OPEN IT AGAIN?
FOR HIM NOT TO BE BACK YET...
I WONDER IF SOMETHING HAPPENED...?
HE MIGHT STAY OVER THERE UNTIL THE NEXT FULL MOON.
LET'S WAIT A BIT MORE.
AH... YEAH, I GUESS...
HE MIGHT HAVE JUST CAUGHT A COLD.
.....
TRUE...
DON'T LOOK LIKE THAT...
HE'S SAFER ON THE OTHER SIDE THAN HERE, AFTER ALL, RIGHT?

AH! CHIEF PRIEST!
stare...
.....
...WHAT IS IT, SEIGA?
...y'think he knows?
PROBABLY
NOTHING
WELL, WHATEVER
HUH? BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU, THEN?
THE CLOUDS DON'T LOOK TOO FRIENDLY. YOU HEAD ON BACK.
I'M GOING TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AROUND
flap
turn

shhhh...
OH RIGHT, ANOTHER MOUNTAIN OF MUSHROOMS JUST CAME IN.
JIKOU WAS HAVING A TERRIBLY TIME OF IT, SO GO AND HELP HIM.
Seriously?? Woohoo! Mushroom hotpot!
.....
YUB!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
WE NEED TO GUARD THE VILLAGE!
WHAT IS IT, HEI?

RIGHT...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "RIGHT"?!
YOU'VE BEEN STARING OFF INTO SPACE LATELY AND YOU DON'T EAT! WHAT'S WRONG?
JUST... THINGS.
.....
HE!...
.....
HAVE YOU SEEN OZUNO LATELY?
OZUNO?
NO, I HAVEN'T BEEN UP THE MOUNTAIN IN SOME TIME
...I'LL BE BACK.
YUE!
DON'T WORRY...
I'LL COME RIGHT BACK.
.....

WHAT THE HECK'S GOING ON?
AKIRA-CHAN?!
Yo, Kazu~
'm baaack...
drag
DON'T GIVE ME THAT! WHERE THE HECK HAVE YOU BEEN?!
UH, WELL, ABOUT THAT...
I WAITED AT THE SHRINE ON THE OTHER SIDE !!
BUT THE GATE WOULDN'T OPEN, AND NO ONE WAS AROUND
AND AFTER I WAITED FOR A WHILE, IT JUST KINDA *RIPPED* OPEN—

AKIRA!
YOU'RE BACK?
CHIEF PRIEST...
I DON' REALLY GET IT M'SELF!
IT SEEMS TIME IS OFF BETWEEN OUR WORLDS...
IT'S BEEN DAYS SINCE THE FULL MOON HERE.
EH?! SERIOUSLY?!
CRAP, SOUNDS LIKE THINGS ARE GETTING HAIRY NOW...
SO HOW WAS THE OTHER SIDE THEN? DID ANYTHING HAPPEN?
MM...
AKIRA, GO INSIDE AND REST.
WE CAN TALK LATER.
OKAY...
crunch

YUE?!
HEY THERE.
OZUNO.
...IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?
NO REASON
I HAD... SOMETHING I WANTED TO ASK.
ARE YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR NIGHTLY ROUNDS?
YEAH. I'M JUST TAKING A BREAK.
.....
ARE YOU NOT FEELING WELL? YOUR PALLOR IS...
.....

ARE YOU...
...AND THAT BRAT TOGETHER?
OZUNO...
DO YOU... HATE ME?
...YEAH.
I GUESS WE ARE...
...IF THAT'S WHAT YOU'VE COME TO ASK ME ABOUT...
ANSWER ME.
.....
I DON'T...
IF KAZUKI WEREN'T AROUND...
I MIGHT HAVE EVEN LOVED YOU, MAYBE.

IF HE... WEREN'T AROUND?
Hotaru chaaan! ♥
YEAH...
SORRY, I GUESS THAT'S A STRANGE WAY OF PUTTING IT
THEN...
HE JUST NEEDS TO NOT BE A-ROUND, RIGHT?
HUH?
YUE?!
WAIT, YUE!!
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING ON DOING?!

HEY!
YOU'RE ACTING WEIRD!
...YUE...?
BACK WHEN WE WERE JUST KIDS...
...AND I'D GO OFF TO FIND YOU...
I CLIMBED MOUNTAINS ALMOST EVERY DAY FOR YOU.
HUH...?
YOU WERE ALWAYS ALONE...
...AND YOU NEVER LOOKED ALL THAT HAPPY TO SEE ME.
AND YET...
YOU HID IN THE FOREST...

...WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
I WAS SO PROUD TO CALL YOU MY FRIEND
Y'KNOW, OZUNO?
I BOASTED TO EVERYONE AROUND...
...THAT I WAS FRIENDS WITH A DEMON.
I HAVE ALWAYS...
SFX: RUSTLE
ALWAYS LO...
YU...
YUE...?!
!

YUE?!
!
BAM
BAM
WHO'S THERE?!
I'M OPENING THE DOOR!
HEI?!

WHAT ARE YOU HERE ALL OF A SUDDEN FOR? DID SOMETHING HAPPEN...?
NO... JUST...HAS MY BROTHER COME BY?
YUE? NO, I CAN'T SAY AS I'VE SEEN HIM IN A WHILE
It's Hei san
I SEE...
IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH YUE?
HE MIGHT BE OUTSIDE WITH OZUNO-SAN, THEN?
AH, A GUEST?
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO GO WITH YOU TO SEE?
THAT WOULD REALLY HELP, YES
LATELY...
HE'S BEEN ACTING VERY STRANGELY...
EH?
THEN HE SAID OUT OF THE BLUE THAT HE WAS GOING TO COME SEE OZUNO-SAN...
AND I WAS WORRIED. SO I CAME CHASING AFTER HIM
TAKE CARE! AND DON'T STEP OUTSIDE THE BARRIER, OKAY?
OKAY, WE WON'T!
clench

HOTARU...?
I'M SCARED, CHIEF PRIEST!
YUE?!
WHAT'S HAP-PENING TO YOU?!
COUGH
OI?!
HACK
COUGH
YUE!!
plip
plip
O...ZUNO...
OZUNO...

SFX: GRAB
OZUNO...
PLEASE...
!
KILL ME.
WHA--?!
THERE'S SOME-THING...
INSIDE...ME...
COUGH
HURRY... KILL...ME...
MUCH LONGER AND I...
...WILL KILL YOU...AND THE OTHERS...
WHAT?!
WHEN DID THIS HAP-PEN TO-
SFX: RUSTLE

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
THERE'S NO WAY I COULD EVER DO THAT!
HUR...RY...!
SFX: CHOKE
!
.....
O...zuno...
You...
HNG-!
ST...OP...!

You..
yu...e ..!
This village..
and.. you..
are...mine...
and.. Seiga..
All of it..
...s MINE

I'm gonna...
DEVOUR...
SFX: CLENCH
SFX: SLIDE

SFX: SWIPE

SFX: VWASH!
HEI-SAN! OVER THERE!
WHAT THE--?!
SFX:
THERE'S A TENGU CHASING AFTER IT!
YUE!!
HURRY!
!

YUE!
ARE YOU BACK TO NORMAL?!
HANG IN THERE! WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW?!
O...ZUNO...
.....
...SORRY...
I'VE BURDENED YOU...
...WITH EVERYTHING...
BUT...PLEASE
PROTECT...
THE GATE... FROM DEMONS.
PROTECT... EVERYONE...

SFX: FLAPPING
YUE...?
YUE?!
OI...
YU...
DAMMIT...!

I SAW THE BLACKNESS IN QUESTION AND HURRIED HERE, BUT...
IT SEEMS I WASN'T FAST ENOUGH...
WHAT *WAS* THAT, HIGH PRIEST...?
THIS IS JUST MY GUESS...
IT SEEMS TO BE SOME EVIL... A GREAT EVIL INFLUENCE, I SUPPOSE YOU COULD CALL IT.
THAT DEAD MAN MAY HAVE HARBORED ILL INTENT...
...AND BEEN CONSUMED BY THE EVIL
BUT... WHY?
WE'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THAT HERE BEFORE...
IT'S BEYOND ME
THIS WORLD EXISTS IN A DELICATE BALANCE

INTRODUCING EVEN A BIT OF DISCORD...
...CAN DISRUPT THE BALANCE AND ALLOW ELEMENTS SUCH AS THAT TO WORM THEIR WAY INSIDE.
SO THIS IS ALSO BECAUSE OF THE GATE...?
INDEED.
THE GATE'S MALFUNCTION IS ALLOWING OFF-WORLDERS TO WANDER IN, IS IT NOT?
THIS MAY BE AN ATTEMPT TO REJECT THAT WHICH SHOULD NOT BE HERE
CAW
HUMANS SHOULD BE THE ONES TO END HUMAN-BORNE DISASTERS.
IT SEEMS WE WON'T BE ABLE TO HANDLE THIS OURSELVES.
YES...
.....
IT SEEMS WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME TO DAWDLE IN THOUGHT, CHIEF PRIEST
HM...?
OZUNO-SAN...?
ARE YOU SURE YOU'LL BE OKAY...
GOING TO THE VILLAGE WITH HEI-SAN?
YEAH...

I HAVE TO EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED TO YUE, SO...
I *DID* TELL HIM IT'D BE BETTER IF HE DIDN'T COME.
BUT--!
THE PEOPLE ARE OUT FOR BLOOD SINCE SO MANY HAVE DISAPPEARED WITHOUT A TRACE.
IF MY BROTHER, ONE OF THE GUARDS, COMES BACK AS A *CORPSE*...
THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT THEY'LL DO TO OZUNO
JIKOU!
WAIT! THEN I'LL GO TOO!
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK. DON'T WORRY, KAZUKI.
YES?
SEND A MESSENGER TO THE FEUDAL LORD RIGHT AWAY!
...I WAS THE ONE WHO KILLED HIM
BUT--OZUNO-SAN!
I KNOW. AND I'LL EXPLAIN THAT TO EVERYONE.

dop
dop
YES!
RIGHT AWAY!
TELL HIM I HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO DISCUSS
KAZU—ARE YOU OKAY?
THAT'S NOT IT...
WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT IS REALLY...
HUH?
AKIRA-CHAN..
I—SPOKE WITH OZUNO-SAN ABOUT IT BEFORE, BUT...
HE SAID HE... DOESN'T REALLY PLACE ANY VALUE ON HIS OWN LIFE...
DON'T WORRY! I'M SURE OZUNO-KUN'S GONNA BE JUST FINE!

MAYBE BECAUSE HE'S BEEN HUNTING DEMONS ALL THIS TIME,
BUT APPARENTLY HE DOESN'T REALLY CARE IF HE LIVES OR DIES...
THEN...THE REASON HE WENT TO THE VILLAGE...IS TO BE KILLED?
I DUNNO...BUT I CAN'T HELP THINKING IT MIGHT BE...
pat
OI OI, YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT THIS TOO MUCH!
JUST WAIT PATIENTLY, GOT IT?
'KAY...
SNIFFLE
WE'RE GONNA CONDUCT SOME EXPERIMENTS ON THE GATE TOMORROW!
CHIEF PRIEST!
I'VE JUST RETURNED!
WHAT DID THE FEUDAL LORD SAY?
HE WAS OUT VISITING ANOTHER TERRITORY WHEN I ARRIVED,
BUT HE'LL BE ON HIS WAY HERE AS SOON AS HE RETURNS
I SEE...

CHIEF PRIEST...
WHERE'S OZUNO...?
HE'LL BE FINE, HOTARU.
YOU CAN'T LEAVE THE SHRINE UNATTENDED, RIGHT?
I'LL RETURN WITH ALL HASTE.
THANK YOU, JIKOU.
I BORROWED A MOUNT, SO I'M GOING TO CHECK ON THE VILLAGE.
I'M A BIT WORRIED ABOUT OZUNO-SAN...
INDEED. I'D LIKE TO GO MYSELF, BUT
HE'LL BE BACK SOON...

SFX: CLANG!
OZUNO! I'M SORRY!
I TRIED TO EXPLAIN TO EVERYONE, BUT...!
IT'S FINE, HEI.
TELL THEM I'LL TAKE ANY PUNISHMENT THEY SEE FIT.
I'LL GET YOU OUT OF THERE AS SOON AS I CAN!
JUST BEAR IT FOR A BIT!
ALL RIGHT
HEY, OPEN UP!
CALL THE VILLAGE ELDER!
"OZUNO..."

"I'VE BURDENED YOU WITH EVERYTHING..."
"I'M... SORRY..."
SNIFF

MY LORD!
MY APOLOGIES FOR HAVING YOU COME SO FAR...
I SHOULD HAVE COME TO YOU...
IT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT.
HAS ANYTHING HAPPENED TO OZUNO-KUN?
STEP
CHIEF PRIEST...
WELL, HE...
HAD TO PUT DOWN ONE OF THE VILLAGE GUARDS...
THOUGH--HE NATURALLY HAD GOOD REASON, BUT...

I SEE...
WHEN I HAD A MAN GO TO THE VILLAGE TO CHECK ON HIM...
...HE'D ALREADY BEEN ARRESTED.
AND...THERE'S TALK OF AN... EXECUTION...
SO WILL YOU LEAVE THIS MATTER TO ME?
I REFUSE TO LET ANYTHING HAPPEN TO YOUR BROTHER.
.....
OF COURSE.
gate
END